



## **DEPARTMENT of GAME, FISH, AND PARKS**

4130 Adventure Trail  
Rapid City, SD 57702  
605.394.2391

### Minutes of the Western Regional Advisory Panel meeting held January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

WRAP members present: Derek Alexander, Terry Mayes, Scott Phillips, Jeff Sleep, Ken McIlravy, Jerry Hirschoff

WRAP members absent due to weather: Dennis Nash, Travis Bies, Rolf Kraft

**Agenda** sent previous to meeting:

10:00AM - Review and discussion on the Draft Elk Management Plan

11:00AM – Open discussion on the Pro's / Con's of lion hounds pursuing lions outside of the Black Hills.

12:00Noon – Lunch provided

1:00PM – Presentation on the Deer License Allocation Opinion survey

2:30PM – Closing business – set next meeting, discuss possible agenda items, travel vouchers completed

3:00PM – Dismiss

Meeting was initiated at 10:00 AM and began with RPM John Kanta presenting a power point regarding the elk management plan. This power point was the same one given to the GFP Commission previously as a summary. 3 of the WRAP members actually served on the elk stakeholder group in the development process. Discussions and comments/thoughts presented by the WRAP were much greater than anticipated which impacted the meeting agenda. Discussion on the elk management plan went through lunch and up to 2:00 PM.

The WRAP wished to submit a comment on the elk management plan. 4 main thoughts / points were developed for this comment and RS Kintigh was asked to assemble them for submission. Those 4 points were: 1) Recognize work done so far and encourage further cooperation with the USFS in developing the plan and monitoring habitat impacts. 2) Applaud the efforts to include a contingency plan for additional tags if environmental conditions

warranted more harvest. 3) Encourage flexibility of the plan to allow managers to adapt to changing conditions and encourage the Commission to listen closely to the recommendations of Dept. managers and a little less closely to the vocal minorities. 4) While not covered in the 'plan' precisely, the WDM program should be expanded to fully utilize the additional revenues generated from the increased surcharge fees to relieve pressures felt by private landowners. RS Kintigh to explore the best way to submit a formal comment from the WRAP, as this hasn't been done before?

At 2:30PM a very brief discussion was held in regards to the proposal before the Commission at this time – to allow the use of hounds to pursue lions in SD, outside of the Black Hills fire protection district. Terry Mayes presented 6 conditions he felt necessary to allow this. Ken McIlravy was opposed to the proposal on fears of trespass issues and potential disturbance to livestock. Other panel members present voiced some concerns for the impacts to public lands, but were generally neutral on the whole proposal.

Next meeting set for April 23<sup>rd</sup>, at the OCW. Meeting to run 10AM to 3PM, with lunch provided again. Primary agenda item – invite USFS personnel to the meeting to discuss habitat monitoring on the forest, process for accomplishing joint GFP / USFS habitat improvement projects.